



Learn How to Treat Hepatitis C (HCV) as a PCP

Get expert support for managing HCV from a learning network with University of Mississippi Medical Center specialists.

Learn about best practices and evidence-based treatment for:

- Screening and diagnosis of HCV
- Medication choices and selection
- How to optimize treatment to achieve a sustained virologic response (SVR), aka cure.
- How to address co-morbidities and drug-drug interactions during HCV therapy
- How to appropriately stage fibrosis and manage advanced liver disease

Why HCV?

Over 5 million Americans have Hepatitis C. It is estimated there are 23,000 people living with HCV in Mississippi. Untreated HCV causes significant morbidity and mortality including cirrhosis, liver cancer, and need for liver transplant. Current direct acting antivirals (DAAs) have cure rates between 95 and 100% for most patients. Since interferon based therapy is no longer necessary, current drug treatments make it easier than ever for primary care providers to treat persons with HCV in their own office. Hepatitis C ECHO can help primary care providers improve long-term outcomes for their patients with HCV and decrease referrals that burden the patient. We use case based learning and focused didactics in virtual learning network of providers interested in long self-education and collaboration.

What does Hepatitis C ECHO offer?

- Free CME for health care professionals
- Collaboration, support and ongoing learning with experts and other community providers
- Patients get better care in home community

How does it work?

- Access requirements: Telephone, smart phone, tablet or video enabled computer
- Join regular video conferences for clinical case presentations and brief didactic lectures.
- Submit your own cases to be discussed and get input on treatment plans

FAQ

Who can participate?

All levels of providers are welcome and highly encouraged to participate in TeleECHO clinics including: physicians, physician assistances, nurse practitioners, registered nurses, psychiatrists, social workers, CHWs, and pharmacists.

How exactly do patients get better care in the home community?

The ECHO model dramatically improves health outcomes for patients while bolstering patient retention and satisfaction. When a local health center adopts ECHO, many patients no longer have to travel long distances to see a specialist, a journey which is often very difficult for those with hepatitis C, and prohibitively expensive. With ECHO, patients with Hepatitis C can be treated close to home, without waiting months for an appointment. The ECHO model has also demonstrated that when patients are treated in their local communities, by providers they know and trust, it enhances their adherence to treatment and follow-up care. Expert consultations between providers and academic specialists also directly impact the health of patients, who benefit from the provider's increased knowledge of best practices.

Meet our team:

Svenja Albrecht, MD

Contact us:

UMMC Project ECHO - echo@umc.edu
The Center for Telehealth - telehealth@umc.edu

